

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Joseph S. Adorante	) Examiner
Serial No.:	Unknown	) Unknown
Filed:	Unknown	) Art Unit
For:	INFUSION SLEEVE FOR OPHTHALMIC	) Unknown
	SURGERY	)
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December 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents &amp; Trademarks

Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the hereinabove referenced and accompanying patent application as follows before calculation of filing fees and examination.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the first paragraph on page 1 with the following paragraph:

The present application is a continuation of USSN 09/952,733 is a continuation of USSN 09/273,832 now U.S. Patent No. 6,326,289 which is a continuation-in-part of USSN 08/827,194, now U.S. Patent No. 5,922,746.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-13, 21-22 and add claims 23-26 as follows:

23. A method for preventing retinal ganglion cell death comprising the step of administration to the ganglion optic nerve of a mammal, a pharmaceutical composition which evokes a biological mechanism which does not modulate aqueous humor dynamics and intraocular pressure.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein the compound having non-inactivating sodium channel blocking activity is selected from the group consisting of benzothialzole riluzole, phenyl benzothiozole and lifarizine.

25. The method of treatment of claim 24 wherein the composition is an ophthalmic solution adapted from administration to the eye of a mammal in the form of intracameral injection.

26. The method of treatment of claim 23 wherein the ophthalmic composition the concentration of the compound having non-inactivating sodium channel blocking activity is in the range of approximately 0.0001 to 1 percent weight by volume.

#### REMARKS

The present amendment to the specification is made to correlate the present application with parent applications. No New matter has been added.

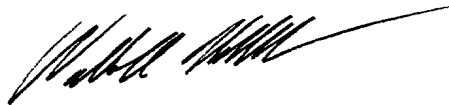
In addition, claims 23-26 have been added to define the invention as a method for preventing retinal ganglion cell death comprising the step of administering to the ganglion optic nerve of a mammal, a pharmaceutical composition which evokes a biological mechanism which does not modulate aqueous humor dynamics and intraocular pressure. Support for this

claim is found in the original specification on page 3, lines 13-20.

The application submits that all of the claims in the application now are directed to subject matter not anticipated and made obvious by the references of record. Allowance is respectively requested.

Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to the specification and claims in the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES MADE".

Respectfully submitted,



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